



Michigan Operating Engineers

March 12, 2015

Who We Are:

(30 Second Commercial) www.joinoe324.org

For over 100 years, OE 324 has provided value to workers, businesses, and communities throughout the entire state of Michigan. We are a dynamic organization comprised of over 14,000 Members. Our work spans both private and public markets.

Operating Engineers are at the controls of the heavy equipment used in building and maintaining Michigan's infrastructure. We operate the complex temperature systems of commercial and public buildings and factories. We install the indispensable water, sewer, utility, and transportation infrastructure covering every corner of our state. We build and maintain crucial gas and oil distribution pipelines. And most importantly, we build opportunity and successful careers.

Each year, OE 324 has a tremendous impact on Michigan's economy. For the 2014 calendar year, our retirees and their spouses received over \$148 million in benefits. Our Healthcare plan paid out over \$102 million in benefits for Members and their dependents. And our Members earned wages totaling more than \$255 million. That's well over \$500 million dollars invested in Michigan's economy in just one year.

Operating Engineers are the individuals who build, operate, and maintain the infrastructure of this great state: *We Keep Michigan Running.*

Why We Are Here

(Governor's Video) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ibp4rcteHPk&feature=youtu.be>

Michigan Operating Engineers wholeheartedly support Governor Rick Snyder's plan to boost funding for workforce development. Operating Engineers 324 is committed to productivity, profit, and value in the Michigan economy. We are engaged and focused on workforce development programs that benefit not only our industry, but our communities and Michigan's economy as a whole.

(MICCD Video) <http://vimeo.com/110903908>

Governor Rick Snyder took the opportunity to attend one of these workforce development programs at our training facility in 2014. Michigan Construction Career Days (MICCD) has been Michigan's premiere construction career exploration event since 2008. Thousands of high school students from across the state come together to experience the industry first-hand, and are given the opportunity to learn about the training, education, and career paths that are available in the construction industry.

OE 324 Career Centers

(Career Center Video) <http://vimeo.com/92704760>

OE 324 offers Apprentices two Career Centers, each with a different focus:

Our **Stationary Engineers Education Center** in the heart of Corktown, Detroit offers the advanced technical training it takes to educate Members in Building Systems Operations and Maintenance. Apprentices who become Stationary Engineers build their careers operating and maintaining the complex temperature control systems found in Michigan's commercial buildings, factories, arenas, hospitals, public schools and universities.

Our **Heavy Equipment Training Facility** is located on 515 acres in Howell, Michigan, and offers a mix of classroom, hands on, and on the job training over the course of a 3 to 4 year (6000 to 8000 hour) apprenticeship program, depending on area of study. When they are ready, apprentices are placed in on-the-job training, so they earn while they learn. From January 1 to December 31, 2013, Apprentices and Journeymen completed more than 54,000 hours of training at this facility.

Apprenticeship is Michigan's other 4-year degree, and the OE 324 Apprenticeship Programs are completely self-funded – meaning our apprentices graduate with no debt. Through superior training at our Career Centers, our Members are educated, experienced, and work-ready. Operating Engineers possess the depth of character needed to master their craft while bringing unsurpassed safety, unity, and productivity to every job site. Our statewide organization is continually developing professionals, and that's how we build careers.

Michigan Partners in Workforce Development

OE 324 partners with various teams and agencies in Michigan to further our workforce development.

MUSAR:

Since our partnership began in 1999, we have worked as part of the Michigan Urban Search and Rescue (MUSAR) team on training in structural collapse, trench collapse, rope rescue and confined space scenarios, as well as evidence recovery, providing expertise in heavy equipment operation for disasters large and small.

MI Task Force One:

Many of our instructors are members of the elite Michigan Task Force One Response Team. Team members undergo rigorous personal training to qualify as a team member. Members then participate in ongoing training for mobilization to large scale incident searches and base of operation so the team is always ready to be the first responders.

FBI:

We maintain a close and growing relationship with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). We host such courses as confined space, evidence recovery, explosives awareness, post blast investigations and wide search area.

MI State Police:

We have also developed a strong working relationship with The Michigan State Police. They also use our facility for explosives training, sometimes in conjunction with the FBI. We also host their K-9 Bomb Dog training course.

Our Ask

OE 324 has earned its reputation as a trusted business partner. We understand how business works and take extreme pride in working hard for our Members, contractors, and project owners. We are focused on the continued growth of the workforce and the economy, for the success of our communities and for the benefit of the State of Michigan.

We support the Governor's plans to increase funding for workforce development. As this pertains to Career and Technical Education (CTE) in high school, Operating Engineers 324 asks that you will support funding increases to attract and recruit students to these programs, and that it be made a priority to develop and retool high school curriculum for Career and Technical Education.

To accomplish our collective goals in workforce development, we must also understand the importance of developing our Administrators, Teachers, and Counselors in the Career and Technical Education programs. We must provide the equipment, tools, and supplies necessary to successfully educate and train students in these fields. Access to Career and Technical Education, coupled with early college opportunities, will help to ensure the success of Michigan's students and the success of Michigan's economy into the future.

An Invitation

You are invited to join us for Michigan Construction Career Days on May 7th & 8th, 2015 at our Career Center in Howell to tour our training facility and to learn more about the opportunities in our industry provides. Please contact Ryan Dunn at 248-451-0324 x 1681 for more information.